

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A component of a fluid flow machine, comprising:

a coolant passage comprising at least one curved flow section; and

a second passage comprising an inspection aperture, the inspection aperture including a wall flush with a wall of the coolant passage, the inspection aperture being arranged and dimensioned to enable the introduction of a borescope through the inspection aperture and the second passage, and the second passage (i) branching off the coolant passage at the curved flow section and (ii) being arranged as a tangent to the curved flow section.

Claim 2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The component according to claim 1, wherein the component is a rotating blade for a turbine, and the inspection aperture is arranged in the neighborhood of a tip of the blade.

4. (Previously Presented) The component according to claim 3, wherein the inspection aperture has its longitudinal axis essentially parallel to the axis of the fluid flow machine.

5. (Previously Presented) The component according to claim 3, wherein the inspection aperture is arranged at the blade tip and has its longitudinal axis essentially perpendicular to the axis of the fluid flow machine.

Claims 6-7. (Canceled)

8. (New) A component of a fluid flow machine, comprising:
a coolant passage comprising a curved flow section, a first section through which a cooling medium flows toward the curved flow section, and a second section adjacent the first section through which the cooling medium flows away from the curved flow section; and

a second passage comprising an inspection aperture, the inspection aperture including a wall flush with a wall of the coolant passage, and the second passage (i) branching off the coolant passage at the curved flow section and (ii) being arranged as a tangent to the curved flow section;

wherein both of the first section of the coolant passage and the second passage are partially defined by a common surface.

9. (New) The component according to claim 8, wherein the first section and the second section of the coolant passage are straight.

10. (New) The component according to claim 8, wherein the inspection aperture is arranged and dimensioned to enable the introduction of a borescope through the inspection aperture and the second passage.

11. (New) A component of a fluid flow machine, comprising:
a coolant passage comprising at least one curved section, and a single first section through which a cooling medium flows from the coolant passage into a second passage;
the second passage comprising an inspection aperture including a wall flush with a wall of the coolant passage, and the second passage (i) branching off the single section of the coolant passage at the curved flow section and (ii) being arranged as a tangent to the curved flow section.

12. (New) The component according to claim 11, wherein the inspection aperture is arranged and dimensioned to enable the introduction of a borescope through the inspection aperture and the second passage.

13. (New) The component according to claim 11, wherein the first section and the second section of the coolant passage are straight.

14. (New) The component according to claim 11, wherein:
the coolant passage further comprises a second section arranged downstream of the curved section; and

the coolant passage and the second passage are arranged such that particles entrained in the cooling medium pass through the first section, through the second passage and are discharged through the inspection aperture, while the cooling medium which is relatively free of particles flows through the second section.

15. (New) The component according to claim 14, wherein the second section is adjacent the first section.